

THE  
IRISH OPERATIC  
REPERTORY COMPANY

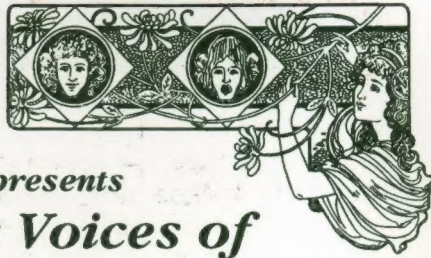
presents

The  
Desert  
Song



*Book and Lyrics by Otto Harbach,  
Oscar Hammerstein and Frank Mandel  
Music by Sigmund Romberg*

CORK OPERA HOUSE  
Tuesday 3rd - Saturday 7th April, 1990



*Barra Ó Tuama presents*

***"Great Operatic Voices of  
To-day" No. 2***

**CITY HALL, CORK**  
**Saturday, 21st April, 1990 at 8 p.m.**

WORLD RENOWNED IRISH SOPRANO

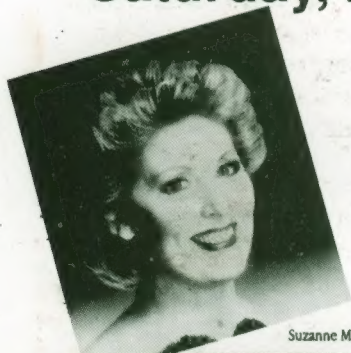
**SUZANNE  
MURPHY**

LEADING U.K. TENOR

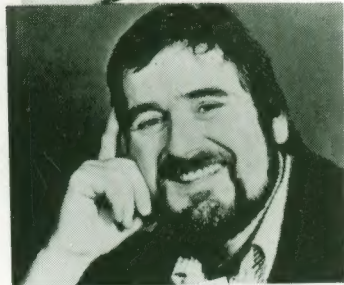
**JOHN  
TRELEAVEN**

MAGNIFICENT BARITONE

**ALAN OPIE**



Suzanne Murphy



John Treleven



Alan Opie

Accompanist: **INGRID SURGENOR**

Special Guests:

**"The Chorus of the I.O.R.C."**

Concert Narrator: **DAVID MCINERNEY**

Tickets:

**Kelly's Music Store, Grand Parade, Cork**

Tel: (021) 272355

**£5, £8, £10.50, £11.50, £12.50**



## THE DESERT SONG

The Desert Song is a robust survivor from one of the most sensational years of the American Twenties. Nineteen twenty-six saw not only the first production of this exciting and tuneful new operetta, it also witnesses the engrossing spectacles of Gene Tunney winning a world's championship away from Jack Dempsey; of Gertrude Ederle swimming the English Channel; it saw Clara Bow established as the "It Girl" and it watched Rudolph Valentino's hysterical funeral.

Time has dimmed the lustre of some of these events but not 'The Desert Song' which has enjoyed a hearty career since 1926 in numerous stage revivals and in the films: 1929, 1943, 1953, with Gordon Macrae and Kathryn Grayson. Its songs - the title melody, The Riff Song and One Alone, for example - are staples of the popular repertoire.

The setting of "The Desert Song" - that mountainous section of North Morocco that lies along the Mediterranean coast and that is known as Er Rif - its stories of spies and adventurers contribute to its glamour.

### SCENES

#### ACT I

Scene 1.-Retreat of the Red Shadow in the Riff Mountains.

Scene 2.-General Birabeau's House.

#### INTERVAL

#### ACT II

Scene 1.-The Harem of Ali Ben Ali.

Scene 2.-Edge of the Desert.

Scene 3.-Courtyard of General Birabeau's House.

Time.-1925

Setting.-Northern Africa.

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## CAST

Sid El Kar - <i>The Red Shadow's Lieutenant</i> .....	Liam O'Toole
Hadjii - <i>A Riff Farmer</i> .....	Tony Duggan
Neri - <i>Hadjii's Wife</i> .....	Aoife Minihaue
Benjamin Kidd <i>Society Correspondent for the "Paris Daily Mail"</i> .....	Des Manahan
Captain Paul Fontaine .....	Michael Daly
Margot Bonvalet - <i>Guest of General Birabeau</i> .....	Sharon Reidy
General Birabeau <i>Governor of a French Moroccan Province</i> .....	Joe O'Gorman
Pierre Birabeau - <i>His only son</i> .....	Michael McCarthy
Susan - <i>His Ward</i> .....	Mon Murphy
Edith - <i>Her Friend</i> .....	Stephanie Shine
Azuri Ben - <i>Ali's Favourite</i> .....	Katherine Lewis
Ali Ben Ali - <i>Caid of a Riff Tribe</i> .....	John O'Flynn
Clementina - <i>A Spanish "Lady"</i> .....	Charlotte O'Connor
<i>Leading Members of the Red Shadows Band:</i>	
Mindar .....	Pat Smith
Hassi .....	Paul Mescal
<i>Members of the French Foreign Legion:</i>	
Lieut. La Vergne .....	Robert O'Connor
Sergeant De Boussac .....	Barry Holland
Chorus of Riffs, French Soldiers, Spanish Girls, Soldiers Wives, etc., etc.	

## ORCHESTRA

Violin I - Mary Bollard \* Violin II - Sheila Ryan \* Viola - Roisin Ni Dhuill \* Cello - Laura Mason \* Bass - Carbry O'Sullivan \* Flute - John O'Connor \* Oboe - Coral O'Sullivan \* Clarinet I - Michael Lynch \* Clarinet II - Sarah Chamberlain \* Trumpet I - Johnny O'Donnell \* Trumpet II - Niall Vallely \* Horn - Declan McCarthy \* Trombone - Rory O'Brien \* Keyboards - Gerry McConnell \* Percussion - Danny Nolan

### Chorus Administration/Fundraising:

Aoife Minihaue \* Nancy Rane \* Peggy Ryan \* Pauline Ryan \* John Drumond \* Barry Holland \* Miriam Seymour \* June Lucey \* Monica Jones \* Noel Casey

## CORK OPERA HOUSE

### GENERAL MANAGER - GERRY BARNES

Production Manager .....	Brendan Galvin
Stage Lighting .....	Paddy O'Leary
Sound Technician .....	Ian Bullock



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Directed & Choreographed by .....	David Gordon
Assistant to the Director .....	Eileen Crosbie
Musical Director .....	Donal O'Callaghan, M.A., B.Mus.
Designer .....	Patrick Murray
Set Construction and Stage Direction .....	Sceneco
Stage Manager .....	Jim Newman
Lighting .....	Seamus Griffin
Administrator .....	Barry O'Reilly
Wardrobe Mistress .....	Angela O'Brien
Wardrobe .....	Catherine O'Mahony, Ina O'Neill
Chorus Training .....	Donal O'Callaghan, John Browne Michelle Hornibrooke
Repetiteurs .....	Janet Boyle, Gerry McConnell, Paddy Hegarty
P.R. ....	Jo White, Barry O'Reilly
Front of House .....	Bob Barry, Breda Clifford, Eddie Malone, Mark Pinfield
Props. ....	Kay Dunne, Finbarr Minihane
Photographer .....	Kevin McLoughlin
Programme .....	Eddie Malone, Donal O'Callaghan James F. Horgan Print & Design

#### LADIES OF THE CHORUS

*Josephine Barry, June Buckley, Caron Butler, Margaret Cantwell, Joan Casey,  
Ann Cogan, Ursula Conway, Betty Cotter, Phil Cummins, Therese Daunt,  
Kay Deering, Sheila Delea, Margaret Fradgley, Pauline Guidon,  
Ann Harrington, Siobhan Harris, Collette Healy, Monica Jones,  
Rosemarie Kirby, Una Long, Marie McCarthy, Aoife Minihane,  
Joan Montgomery, Marie Mullane, Mona Mullane, Joan O'Brien,  
Charlotte O'Connor, Meredie O'Donoghue, Phyllis O'Mahony,  
Dympna Ormond, Ailish Ryan, Pauline Ryan, Peggy Ryan, Siobhan Scahill,  
Kay Scoutts, Miriam Seymour, Mary Sheehan, Stephanie Shine*

#### GENTLEMEN OF THE CHORUS

*Michael Allen, Noel Casey, Jean Claude Clerque, Eddie Cogan, John Cogan,  
Tony Duggan, Eddie Garvin, Barry Holland, Tony Jones, Don Lynch,  
Noel Lynch, Charles McCarthy, Tadgh McCarthy, Richard Moynihan,  
Finbarr Murphy, Lorcan O'Byrne, Robert O'Connor, Dave O'Flaherty,  
Aiden O'Halloran, Brendan O'Neill, Jerry O'Riordan, John Ormond,  
Pat Smith, Denis Wolfe*

#### DANCERS OF THE MONTFORT STAGE SCHOOL

*Mary Burke, Olivia Cooney, Christine Cotter, Karen Cotter, Deborah Foley,  
Muriel Howard, Elaine Looney, Jennifer Long, Joy McCarthy, Carla Manning,  
Dawn Monahan, Orla Murphy, Lorraine O'Connor, Michelle Power,  
Rachel Ryan, Jackie Slevin, Irene Warren*

#### CHORUS CATERING

*Noreen Barry, Kathleen Murphy, Ann O'Connell, Ina O'Neill, Ann O'Toole  
Sheila Tsu*



The talent, the commitment, the voluntary and professional back-up, the imagination and the motivation, the time, the energy: all these factors which the I. O. R. C. can muster become redundant without the financial backing which our Protectors, Friends and Patrons provide. If we are to flourish, it will be because ordinary people with concern for the quality of life in our city rallied to our aid and continue to contribute generously to help make our plans a reality. We are deeply indebted to them for their support and trust.

## PROTECTORS

Mr. Bela Kos (Quigley Company of Europe) \* Mr. T. J. Cahill (Gaeleo Ltd.) \* Mr. Don Tidey (Quinnsworth) \* Mr. Peter McKevitt (Youngline) \* Mr. Silvestrini (Ferrero Ireland)

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

*The Irish Operatic Repertory Company wishes to express warm appreciation to the following for their financial and practical help, and encouragement.*

**FAS, Vivian Nathan & Co. (Accountants), Cork Corporation and its Arts Committee, The Community of the South Presentation Convent, Ryanair**

Mr. Steve Montgomery; Mr. Paul Twomey (Economy Computer Service); Mr. Finbarr Minihane; Mr. Eamonn Young; Mr. Brendan Murphy; Mrs. Maureen Barrett; Ms. Catherine O'Mahony; Mr. Michael O'Callaghan; Hunters Lodge Riding School; Michael & Jo White; Mr. Maurice Walsh, Country Club Hotel; Mr. David Roche, Paddy Garibaldi's; Mr. Pat Walsh, John A. Wood; Mrs. Elsie Murphy, Greybrook Riding School; Mr. Christy Murray, Murphy Transport; Montfort Stage School & Eileen Nolan; Mr. John Murphy, Signrite; Cork Scene; Cork Multi-Channel; O'Flynn's Restaurant, Market Parade; Apple Computers; Mr. Gerry Barnes & Staff, Cork Opera House; Mr. & Mrs. P. Thompson; Mr. Tim O'Sullivan, Guinness Group Sales; The Cork Examiner; Cork Local Radio; I.M.S. Publications; Cork Tribune; Southern Star; Mr. Kevin Power; Prof. Aloys Fleishmann; Ms. Martina Bohrdt; B.N. Molloy Footwear; Cork Arts & Theatre Club; Salon 33; Bob Bolton; Ardmaning; Liam Hutchinson, Bord Telecom; Cathedral Credit Union; Radio South; Mr. Harold Johnson; Mr. John Shorten; Mr. James Horgan; Mr. Tom Cullagh; Terence & Kay Dunne; Mr. Norman Murphy; Copy Cats, Merchants Quay; James F. Horgan Printing & Design, Jack Dalton, Alto signs.

**In addition we acknowledge gratefully all those whose names do not appear here, who donated money, time or effort to support our fundraising drive; and the unstinting help of members of our chorus and their families.**

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wishes the  
Irish Operatic Repertory Company  
every success  
with their production of  
**"The Desert Song"**  
at the  
Cork Opera House  
and continued success  
in the future.



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